

Galleyrand Place, near
Jacksonville, Fla. Feby, 15 1886

Sereno Watson, Esq.

Dear Sir - For some time I have devoted my evenings to the arrangement of my Southern herbarium, which has been in a sad state of confusion heretofore. Having in view an extensive tour of Fla. in which I wish to complete (or nearly) a Fla. herbarium & to greatly enlarge my knowledge of the native & cultivated plants of the State, I am trying to prepare a Catalogue of Fla. plants which will be as nearly exact as possible, conforming with the most improved arrangement & nomenclature.

I find Oyster's Catalogue to be a good basis of work, & as it conforms with Gray's Flora, your Index & Vasey's Catalogue & not with Chapman in other orders I have drawn the inference that he has been guided by you as to the Aspitales & Monocotyledonae

In working up these divisions I have much trouble as to the synonymy having no works for reference as in the case of *Polypetalae* & *Gonopetalae*.

I am therefore constrained to appeal to you for assistance & have drawn off the enclosed list of names of plants which I cannot place in DeCandolle's *C'logne*.

If you will be so kind as to write his ^{no} opposite such of them as occur in the *C'logne* under other names it will be a great assistance. Some of the sps. may not be in his *C'logne* at all.

The enclosed specm. of a West Indian tree was sent me from So-Fla. under the name of Spanish Lime. Do you recognize it? It is said to attain a height of 35° & to bear fruit that looks like limes, whence the name.

I expect to be travelling in Fla. - from March till Oct. - in the interest of a proposed agricultural paper of which I am to be editor - taking photographs & notes of all details of agriculture, horticulture & economic botany for future use -

I hardly think I can tax myself with the preparation of an 8th fascicle but shall collect for my own herbarium & will also collect for you if you will promise to determine what I send in, either native or exotic. Dr. Vasey will attend to the grasses -

Please write at your earliest convenience, so I may start very early in March for Southern Florida.

Yours very truly

A. H. Curtis